

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shawn D. Stad, Christopher Rogers, Michael D. Sorrenti, and Patrick Fatty
Application No.: 10/616,506 Group: 3739
Filed: July 8, 2003 Examiner: Not assigned
Confirmation No.: 1774
For: Attachment Mechanism for Surgical Instrument



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on:	
12-2-03	<i>Sharon G. Carlisle</i>
Date	Signature
Sharon G. Carlisle	
Typed or printed name of person signing certificate	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

☐ under 37 CFR 1.129(a), or
(First/Second submission after Final Rejection)

☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(Within any one of the following time periods: three months of filing national application (other than a CPA) or date of entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits in a non-provisional application, including a CPA, or a Request for Continued Examination).

☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either:
☐ a Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), as checked below, or
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the 37 CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)

☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with:
☐ a Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), as checked below, and
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee)

☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(i):
Applicant requests that the IDS and cited reference(s) be placed in the application filewrapper.
(Filed after payment of issue fee)

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.97(e)

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ No item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Statement Under 37 CFR 1.704(d) (Patent Term Adjustment)

Applies to original applications (other than design) filed on or after May 29, 2000

- ☐ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☒ Enclosed herewith is form PTO-1449:
- ☐ Copies of the cited references are enclosed.
- ☒ Since this application was filed after June 30, 2003, copies of issued U.S. patents and published U.S. applications are not required and are not being provided.
- ☐ Copies of the cited references are enclosed except those entered in prior application, U.S. Application No. [], to which priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 is claimed. [The earlier application contains copies of the cited references.]
- ☐ The listed references were cited in the enclosed International Search Report in a counterpart foreign application.
- ☐ The "concise explanation" requirement (non-English references) for reference(s) [] under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) is satisfied by:
- ☐ the explanation provided on the attached sheet.
 - ☐ the explanation provided in the Specification.
 - ☐ submission of the enclosed International Search Report.
 - ☐ submission of the enclosed English-language version of a foreign Search Report and/or foreign Office Action.
 - ☐ the enclosed English language abstract.

☐ Applicant requests that the following non-published pending applications be considered:

Examiner's
Initials

_____ U.S. Patent Application No. [], by [inventor(s)], filed [], Docket No.: []

_____ U.S. Patent Application No. [], by [inventor(s)], filed [], Docket No.: []

_____ U.S. Patent Application No. [], by [inventor(s)], filed [], Docket No.: []

Examiner

Date

☐ A copy of each above-cited application, including the current claims, is enclosed.

☐ A copy of each above-cited application, including the current claims, is enclosed, except those entered in prior application, U.S. Application No. [], to which priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 is claimed.

The Examiner is requested to return a copy of the above list of pending applications indicating which references were considered with the next office communication.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

Method of payment:

☐ A check for the fee noted above is enclosed, or the fee has been included in the check with the accompanying Reply. A copy of this Statement is enclosed.

☐ Please charge Deposit Account 08-0380 in the amount of \$[]. A copy of this Statement is enclosed.

☒ Please charge any deficiency in fees and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-0380.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMILTON, BROOK, SMITH & REYNOLDS, P.C.

By _____

Erik L. Ence

Registration No.: 42,511

Telephone: (978) 341-0036

Facsimile: (978) 341-0136

Dated: December 2, 2003
Concord, MA 01742-9133

PTO-1449 REPRODUCED		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 3518.1013-000		APPLICATION NO. 10/616,506	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION December 2, 2003 (Use several sheets if necessary)		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Shawn D. Stad		FILING DATE July 8, 2003	
		EXAMINER Not assigned		CONFIRMATION NO. 1774	
				GROUP 3739	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAM- INER INI- TIAL	REF. NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER Number-Kind Code (if known)	ISSUE DATE / PUBLICATION DATE MM-DD-YYYY	NAME OF PATENTEE OR APPLICANT OF CITED DOCUMENT
	AA	6,551,316 B1	04-22-2003	Rinner, <i>et al.</i>
	AB	2002/0123754 A1	09-05-2002	Holmes, <i>et al.</i>
	AC	6,017,342	01-25-2000	Rinner
	AD			
	AE			
	AF			
	AG			
	AH			
	AI			
	AJ			
	AK			
	AA2			
	AB2			
	AC2			
	AD2			
	AE2			
	AF2			
	AG2			
	AH2			
	AI2			
	AJ2			
	AK2			
	AA3			
	AB3			
	AC3			

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------